



MIAMI COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

MIAMI COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2014 1:00 P.M.

GAR ROOM-MIAMI COUNTY COURTHOUSE

MINUTES

The Miami County Solid Waste District held a meeting of the Board of Directors on Monday, August 18, 2014 at 1:00 P.M. in the GAR Room in the Miami County Courthouse, located at 25 North Broadway, Peru, Indiana.

Attending:

Board Members: Don Morris-Chairman-Town of Converse, Larry West-member-County Commissioner, Jerry Hamman-member-County Commissioner, Joshua Francis-member-County Commissioner, Tom Gustin-member-Peru City Council, Jim Walker-Mayor of Peru.

Staff Attending: Samantha Ward-Executive Director, Carla Weaver-Assistant Director/Recording Secretary.

Others: Bobbie Dausch-Contractor for the District, Mike Rorvik-Contractor for the District, Pat Roberts-Legal Counsel.

Absent: Shirley Mull-member-Miami County Council Representative.

Call to Order: Chairman Don Morris called the meeting to order at 1:05 P.M.

Approval of Minutes:

Board members reviewed the meeting minutes from the July 21, 2014 Board of Directors meeting. *Mr. Gustin motioned to approve the meeting minutes; Mr. Walker seconded. Motion carried (6-0).*

Approval of Financial Report and Claims:

There was no discussion of Claims

Mr. Gustin motioned to approve the financial report and claims received by email; Mr. Walker seconded. Motion carried (6-0).

Director's Report

- Ms. Ward reminded the board that Beautification/Clean Up day would be held Saturday, August 23 from 8 AM until 2 PM. There will be a live radio

broadcast from 10:00 until 11:30. Ms. Ward invited any board members to participate in the radio broadcast if they would like to.

Lawyer's Report

- Discussed with the board mailing of late notices for 2014. He distributed his statistics of responses to certified mailings over the past three months. Approximately 54% of the certified mailings were returned to the office unclaimed. As of 10 AM this morning, the office has 1,324 unpaid bills for 2014. Mr. Roberts expressed concern about the extra time and expense of mailing the late notices by certified mail. The mailing of late notices would take approximately 13 weeks for the entire amount of late notices to be mailed out. Every piece of mail has to be keyed in manually at the post office, and the office was told to bring approximately 20–30 late notices in daily. Based on information from January 2014, the cost for mailing out the bills with delivery confirmation would be \$2.32 using a postage meter.
- Mr. Francis stated he would like to receive some kind of delivery confirmation from the post office stating the bill had been delivered to the property owner. Mr. Roberts expressed concern about the cost of sending the late notices by with delivery and/or signature confirmation. Ms. Ward asked what will happen to property owners who refuse to pay the late fee. Mr. Francis said to include a letter with the notice stating that the entire \$55.00 would need to be paid before the due date and any unpaid balance would be turned over to Roberts Law Firm for collection. He also wanted something stating how much court costs and attorney fees would be added to their bill if they refused to pay.
- Mr. Gustin questioned if putting the assessment on the tax bills in 2015 would eliminate the problem of late notices. The auditor is hesitant to add the assessment to the tax bills due to concern of extra work for her office. Ms. Ward stated when the bills were on the taxes in 2006 and 2007 she went to the treasurer's office to answer questions from property owners. There were not a lot of questions, and she helped the treasurer's office process payments. She further stated that the Solid Waste Office is very willing to work with the auditor's office in any way needed to alleviate the additional work.

Mr. Francis motioned to send the late notices out via first class mail with delivery confirmation. Mr. West seconded the motion. Motion carried (6–0).

- Mr. Roberts presented to the board a property owner who stated she sent the payment in to the solid waste office but the check never cleared her bank

account. *Mr. Hamman motioned to waive the court costs and attorney fees for Rosie Hayes. Mr. Gustin seconded. Motion carried (6-0).*

Old Business

- There was no old business.

New Business

- There was no new business.

Building Committee Report

- Mr. Morris reported that he and Ms. Ward toured the Northeast Indiana Solid Waste district main office. The district recently completed a building for storage of equipment. Mr. Morris stated he was impressed with the willingness of the districts to help Miami County improve their service to the county property owners. The Northeast Indiana District is composed of four counties giving the district a population of approximately 156,000 people. Mr. West questioned if Miami County had considered joining with another county to make a larger district. Ms. Ward stated that most districts in the state were single county districts. When Districts merged and became multi-county, things became complicated due to differences in programming and funding.

Public Comment

- There was no public comment.

Next Board Meeting:

- **BOARD OF DIRECTORS– MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2014 at 1:00 P.M. GAR ROOM**

Adjournment: *Adjournment was unanimous.*

Carla Weaver, Recording Secretary

Don Morris, Board Chairman